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Springboard



JULY 09, 2015



Murals sprout in East Nashville for placemaking project

THE TENNESSEAN

A plain brick wall at South 17th and Fatherland streets in East Nashville is soon to be replaced with an intricate mural depicting a cable streetcar from the early 20th century. The 11-by-16-foot scene will be projected onto The Post East building at 1701 Fatherland St. at night as local artists Jake Elliott and Russ Hagan replicate the design using roughly 20 gallons of paint.

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IDA San Francisco

ABOVE THE FOLD

Smart Growth America Core Values



IDA Review of “Core Values: Why American Companies are Moving Downtown”

BY AYLENE MCCALLUM, DIRECTOR OF DOWNTOWN ENVIRONMENT AT THE DOWNTOWN DENVER PARTNERSHIP

Downtown practitioners have known for quite some time that downtowns are rapidly attracting the eye of investors, residents and corporate America. Smart Growth America's recently released report thoroughly and convincingly confirms this with third party research and on-the-ground interviews. While the report is not necessarily a comprehensive analysis, it is a comprehensive compilation of anecdotal evidence supplemented with third party research that supports the notion that the popularity of locating in downtowns across America is growing. The report provides downtown practitioners solid examples to point to when creating planning documents for downtowns, developing a broad-based economic development strategy or simply preparing for a conversation with a company looking to move downtown.

Smart Growth America partnered with global real estate firm Cushman Wakefield to review why companies are locating and re-locating to downtowns across America. Through their research, Smart Growth America identified 500 companies who have made such a move, documented the details of the move (i.e. old location and new location) and interviewed senior leadership to frame an anecdotal picture describing the reasons for the move. Smart Growth America's research revealed that companies relocating to downtowns are diverse in nature and geography. Fifty-two companies reside on the Fortune 500 list, represent over 170 different industries, and span across the United States. The report highlights the top reasons for companies who have made the move to the central business district: to attract and retain talented workers, support creative collaboration, build brand identity and corporate culture, centralize operations, be closer to customers, business partners and service providers, and improve the triple-bottom line.

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MEMBER NEWSMAKERS

Downtown Pittsburgh's promising plan to give streets back to the people

CITYLAB

"You're literally coming across the bridge at 55 miles an hour," Jeremy Waldrup, president and CEO of the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, said during an interview on Monday. Spanning the Monongahela River, the bridge is a main entry and exit point between Interstate 376 and the city's downtown business district, which is known as the Golden Triangle.

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'Downtown Dog Ambassador' brings smiles to visitors

KTVA

Peter Ferrara is used to turning heads when he walks in downtown Anchorage. After all, it's not every day you see a man walking up to a dozen dogs at once, and greeting strangers as he goes.

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Clean and safe isn't just a Northeast Ohio company line

CRAIN'S CLEVELAND BUSINESS

To strengthen their commercial districts, a few Cleveland neighborhoods are adopting what are called "clean and safe" programs that offer enhanced security and sidewalk upkeep to their districts.

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Loop business group hoping murals bring more eyes to Wabash corridor

CBS CHICAGO

A public art project along Wabash Avenue downtown got a new addition on Sunday. Suspended from a cherry picker a few stories above a parking lot at Wabash and Van Buren Street, Italian street artist Never 2501 rolled white paint onto the clay-colored bricks of The Buckingham, a student apartment building facing the CTA 'L' tracks.

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THIS WEEK @ IDA

IDA San Francisco



Registration Now Open for IDA's 61st Annual Conference & Tradeshow

Registration for [IDA's 61st Annual Conference & Tradeshow](#) is now open! This year, we're excited to introduce a new, earlier registration option, that offers the lowest possible rate.

Join us in San Francisco, September 30 - October 2, 2015. This three-day conference will focus on how district management organizations "bridge the gap" every day,

delivering elevated public services and enhanced local economic development in a dynamic, changing marketplace.

Pre-Registration is open now through July 17, 2015. Be sure to [preview all the pre-conference tours and workshops](#) so you know exactly what to register for! Remember, IDA members receive a steep discount on registration fees, so if you're not already a member, [consider joining today](#). Plus, new members who also register for the conference will receive 33% their membership dues!

[Ready to go? Click here to register.](#)

DOWNTOWN TALK

'Smell flowers, not smoke': Seattle curbs cigarettes in parks

REUTERS

Smoking cigarettes and other tobacco products in Seattle's parks became illegal on Monday, as the U.S. Pacific Northwest's largest city joined other American metropolises in restricting puffing in public.

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The transportation choices that millennials want

GOVERNING

With no long-term solution in place - or even in sight - for the sputtering federal Highway Trust Fund, state and local governments are significantly increasing their own transportation spending.

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Big outdoor parking lots look like something else to Montgomery County

WAMU

A common suburban sight in Maryland's Montgomery County — the parking lot — is disappearing as parts of the county become more urban. Politicians and developers say residents should get used to it.

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The rise of cities in the 21st century

HUFFINGTON POST

The 21st century is seeing an incredible power shift and power dynamic with the rise of cities as socioeconomic and political actors on national and world stages.

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Why cities should stop trying to be the next Brooklyn

GRIST

Is Detroit the new Brooklyn? Is Compton? Unoriginal writers, especially at The New York Times, compare every town on Earth that may attract a few artsy people to New York's hippest borough. Often it's mostly just descriptive, or perhaps hype to sell real-estate ads.

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Bike-sharing as a bridge between commute gaps

LA TIMES

Commuting by mass transit in Los Angeles can sometimes feel like a schlep, particularly for those who don't live and work within easy walking distance from bus and train lines.

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Pike Place expansion is underway

THE URBANIST

Construction has begun on the Pike Place Market expansion project, the first addition to the Market in 40 years. Crews broke ground on June 24th with the busy summer season in full swing.

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Craft breweries in Durham raise the bar when it comes to beer

DURHAMREGION.COM

A tall glass of whatever's on tap, served ice cold on a scorching summer day, is once all it took to satisfy the average beer drinker.

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